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**Board of Registration in Pharmacy  
Drug Control Program**

**Policy 2020-06: Continuation of Drug Therapy upon Discontinuation  
of a Prescriber's Practice**

When a pharmacy becomes aware that a prescriber-patient relationship has ended because a prescriber has ceased to practice for any reason, established drug therapy may be continued in order to enable the patient time to establish a relationship with another prescriber.

In order to do so, the following conditions must be met:

1. The prescription must have been issued pursuant to a proper prescriber-patient relationship while the prescriber was still in practice.
2. The prescription is within its expiry period based on its date of issuance (e.g., Schedule III written within 6 months, etc.).
3. The previously filled Schedule III – VI prescription has remaining authorized refills.
4. If multiple Schedule II prescriptions had been issued in accordance with 21 CFR §1306.12, they may be honored.
5. In the event that a Schedule VI prescription has expired or has no remaining refills and the prescriber is no longer in practice, the pharmacist may dispense a quantity not to exceed 14 days or the smallest available unit of use packaging.
6. The pharmacist uses their professional judgment to ensure that the dispensing of the medication remains appropriate.

Please direct any questions to: [Pharmacy.Admin@mass.gov](mailto:Pharmacy.Admin@mass.gov)